

Listing of claims:

20. (Currently Amended) An inductance component comprising:  
a U-shaped magnetic core having first and second magnetic  
legs and a magnetic gap defined between the first and second  
magnetic legs;

5 a permanent magnet mounted on an end portion of only the  
first magnetic leg in a vicinity of a general closed magnetic  
circuit which passes through the magnetic gap in the magnetic  
core but which does not pass through the permanent magnet, for  
generating a direct-current biased magnetic field; and

10 a coil wound around the second magnetic leg.

21. (Previously Presented) An inductance component  
according to claim 20, wherein said permanent magnet is mounted  
on one of an end surface of the first magnetic leg and a side  
surface of the first magnetic leg.

22. (Previously Presented) A transformer comprising the  
inductance component according to claim 20.